

The West Watch

Neighborhood Group

THE REPORTER

APRIL 2009

**WEST END YOUTH CENTER
20TH AND GREENLEAF STREETS
MEETING 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH**

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH - 7PM

CONTACT US

Website:

www.TheWestWatch.org

Pam Palmer President
PamP@TheWestWatch.org

Stephen Zatko
VicePresident@TheWestWatch.org

Bob Berner Treasurer
Treasurer@TheWestWatch.org

Kathryn O'Keefe
Secretary@TheWestWatch.org

Nick Hromiak Board Member
Sean O'Keefe Board Member
Brenda Nagle Board Member

Guest Speaker For The April Meeting

Our guest speaker for the meeting this month is Bob Heinbecker from Altronics who will be speaking about personal and home safety – basically what we can do to not become targets of personal and home invasion.

A Word From Our Newly Elected President

At our last meeting, we elected new officers. Stephen Zatko and Kathryn O'Keefe will continue to serve as Vice President and Secretary respectively. Bob Berner is now our Treasurer. And I am now the President. In addition, we have three new board members, Nick Hromiak, Brenda Nagle and Sean O'Keefe. With seven people, we have a strong team to guide our group through the year. The key to making this group a success is communication. This newsletter is a great tool to keep you informed of what we're doing and providing useful information such as city phone numbers and local ordinances. Our meetings will continue to feature people who have very helpful information to share with us. I personally can't say enough good things about the presentation by the Auto Theft Unit. We will be adding regular open forum meetings so we can discuss what's going on in the neighborhood. We plan to send out more timely information by e-mail because it is the fastest way to get information out. I realize not everyone has e-mail, and I would encourage you to find a way to get e-mail – hook up with someone in your area or a friend/relative who receives our e-mails and can keep you updated. We are in the process of setting up a Block Captain program. I know we've been talking about it for awhile, but we plan to have it up and running by summer. We're talking to the Auto Theft Unit about setting up a VIN etching session and planning another block party for the fall (hopefully it's a sunny day this time). All these events give us an opportunity to get out and talk to each other.

If you have any ideas or suggestions, please e-mail us or come to a meeting and talk to us!



YES!! I am very pleased with the work that the West Watch Neighborhood Group is doing and I would like to make a donation to support their many efforts such as the newsletter, meetings, and community events



SORRY. I am not able to help the West Watch Neighborhood Group with a financial contribution at this time but I would like to help in other ways. Please contact me with how I can help.

You can make your check or money order payable to:

The West Watch Neighborhood Group
& Send it to:
809 N 20th St.
Allentown, PA 18104

*****BLOCK CAPTAIN PROGRAM*****

Our group is recruiting Block Captains. If you are interested in keeping your neighborhood safe, this is one way you can help.

Being a Block Captain requires minimal time, but the best part of your effort would be that you are helping to maintain the secure feeling of your block. Everyone interested should please give their contact information to Stephen Zatko, our Vice President, at the end of the meeting.

Graffiti—What to do...

Graffiti is becoming more prevalent in our city. If you see graffiti in progress, call 911.

If you see a property anywhere in the City of Allentown with graffiti on it, (even though this may not be your property) please report it to 610-437-8729 for removal. Please do your part to keep our properties and our city a better place!

March Meeting Minutes

Neighborhood Clean-Up Day was scheduled for Saturday March 21st. Police Office Alex Boehm was present and announced that we should all know our neighbors and call in anything suspicious. Police Captain Stephens mentioned that a Crime Advisory Group was formed and met a few weeks prior to our meeting. They determined the 3 most important items to address in our PSA are local school dismissal times, graffiti/vandalism, and drugs. Our group had our annual elections for officers and board members. We are looking for Block Captains and more newsletter delivery volunteers. Please contact our group to be involved. See you at the next meeting!

Numbers To Know

Police-Fire-Ambulance	911
Police –Non-emergency	610-437-7751
Chief Maclean	610-437-7777
Police—Vice Unit	610-437-7726
State Rep. Jennifer Mann	610-821-5577
State Sen. Pat Browne	610-821-8468
City Planning	610-437-7613
Recycling/ Graffiti Removal	610-437-8729
Code Enforcement	610-437-7695
Mayor Pawlowski	610-437-7546
Health Bureau	610-437-7760
Zoning office	610-437-7630

How are we doing?

The West Watch can only be successful with your support. Our goal is to make our neighborhood a safer and nicer place to live and we need your help to do this. Send us an email and let us know if there is anything that you think we should be doing but aren't. Let us know if we are scheduling the right speakers or if there is someone that you think would be good for our group to hear. We really would like your feedback, together we can make a difference.

Help!

There are some areas in our neighborhood that are not receiving our newsletter due to a lack of volunteers. If this has happened to you, you could help us by delivering newsletters in your neighborhood or on a block near where you live. We definitely could use your help. Sign up today or find out more information by calling Pam at 610-437-4570 or email PamP@thewestwatch.org

CHEC-Mate Program

Report all suspicious activity anonymously by becoming a CHEC-mate (Citizens Helping Eliminate Crime) Member. Come to our monthly meeting and ask for a card and/or get a few for your Allentown friends or neighbors. Please don't sit silent and expect others to call the police. Everyone has to take responsibility to report suspicious activity when they see it. We can only begin to clean up Allentown when good people come together and say we will no longer put up with illegal activity.